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NOTES AND NEWS

GEORGE SPENCER MORRIS, a member of the American Ornithologists' Union, died at his home "Birdfield," Olney, Philadelphia, on April 12, 1922, in the fifty-fifth year of his age. He had been in poor health for the past few years and had spent the last two winters at Miami, Fla. His friends, however, had no realization of the seriousness of his condition and his death came as a great shock.

Mr. Morris belonged to one of the oldest families of Philadelphia, identified prominently with the public affairs of the city from the time of William Penn and with the activities of the religious Society of Friends of which they were members. He was born at Olney on July 11, 1867, the son of Samuel Morris, a noted minister in the Society of Friends, and Lydia Spencer Morris, a relative of Edward Harris, the friend of Audubon. He was educated at Westtown, the famous Quaker Boarding School, which John Cassin, John K. Townsend and many other Pennsylvania naturalists had attended. Upon leaving school he became an architectural draughtsman and later established an architectural business

of his own in partnership first with Wm. S. Vaux, Jr., and later with Richard Erskine.

From early youth Mr. Morris had been deeply interested in ornithology and Audubon, from whose works he gained his first knowledge of the subject, was his ideal. Doubtless the artistic ability of the great ornithologist attracted him quite as much as his knowledge of birds, for Morris himself possessed talents in this field and became a landscape artist of ability both in oils and water colors, and was an active member as well as Vice President of the Philadelphia Sketch Club.

In 1890 he was one of the group of young men who founded the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club and were responsible for the revival of ornithological interest at the Philadelphia Academy. He served as Secretary and President of the Club, and as Councillor and Curator of the Academy, as well as Vice-Director of the Ornithological Section and member of the Lecture Committee. He became an Associate of the American Ornithologist's Union in 1887 and a Member in 1903. He was active on the Committee of Arrangements for all the Philadelphia meetings and often attended the sessions in Washington and New York, taking a deep interest in the work of the Union.

In the winter of 1889-90 he made an ornithological trip to Tampa Bay, Florida, and in 1892, accompanied Samuel N. Rhoads, a cousin by marriage, on an expedition to Puget Sound and British Columbia, but most of his bird study was carried on along the Atlantic Coast, especially at Cape Charles, Va., and Beach Haven, N. J., and in the vicinity of Philadelphia. In 1895 he visited Europe. In the same year he married Miss Lydia Ellicott, who with five children survives him.

Mr. Morris wrote well and could picture nature as skillfully with the pen as with the brush, but unfortunately he published but little, his contributions appearing mainly in 'Cassinia,' the annual of the Delaware Valley Club, in the maintenance of which he was deeply interested. A paper based on letters of Edward Harris appeared in 'The Auk' for 1895 and he contributed 'A Flood-water Cruise through a Cypress Swamp' to 'Recreation' for April 1910, and similar outdoor sketches to various smaller literary journals.

He was fond of all kinds of out door diversions, hunting, fishing, etc., but it was the beautiful in nature that most appealed to him. He enjoyed to the full canoeing trips down the wilder, less-known streams of the East, trout fishing in the roaring mountain brooks and camping in the level pine barrens of New Jersey, seeing everything with the eye of the artist as well as of the ornithologist. He was interested in all movements for social betterment, especially as they concerned boys and their interests and was a director of the Philadelphia Boy Scouts.

He had a most attractive personality, always cordial and generous, yet quiet and unassuming, earnest and helpful in every undertaking

with which he was identified and a valued friend in the truest sense of that word.—W. S.

ALFRED GRANDIDIER, of Paris, a Corresponding Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1883, and a member of the French Academy of Sciences, died Sept. 13, 1921, in the 86th year of his age. He was born Dec. 20, 1836, and was educated privately. At the age of twenty in company with his brother Ernest and in charge of M. Janssen he started on a trip around the world. After the party had gone about five months M. Janssen was compelled to return on account of ill health but the two brothers continued their journey to South America and in 1858 and 1859 explored the mining regions of Peru, Bolivia, and Chile and the passes between Santiago and Buenos Aires. An account of their collections was published in 1860 by Ernest Grandidier.

In 1863 Alfred embarked alone for India and visited Ceylon. He intended to explore the high plateau of Tibet but was prevented by a severe attack of fever and proceeded to the island of Zanzibar to recuperate. Here he remained some time, made important collections and published an account of his observations. He then visited the island of Réunion and in 1865 made his first visit to Madagascar which from that time became the chief subject of his investigations. A second voyage to Madagascar in 1866 was followed by a third in 1868, which lasted about two years and a half, when his work was interrupted by the Franco-Prussian war and he started home in 1870 never to return. During his explorations he crossed the island three times, traveled 3000 kilometers in the interior and 2500 along the coast and made about 1500 geodetic observations. These observations were utilized in the preparation of a map of the island which became the basis of all later explorations and earned for him in 1872 the gold medal of the Geographic Society.

After the war of 1870 he married Mlle. Vergé and began the preparation of his great work, 'L'Histoire politique, physique et naturelle de Madagascar.' This work undertaken in cooperation with A. Milne-Edwards, Vaillant and others, will include 39 volumes of which some 25 have been published and the others will probably be completed by his son Guillaume. The volumes treating of the birds (XII-XV), include one of text and three of plates, published under the joint authorship of Milne-Edwards and Grandidier from 1876 to 1885 and contain an exhaustive account of the avifauna of the island. His other contributions to ornithology include about half a dozen brief papers on the birds of Madagascar published between 1867 and 1872.¹—T. S. P.

FRANK ERNEST WOODWARD, an Associate of the Union since 1919 and a well known Boston business man, died at Brookline, Mass., Aug. 5,

¹For a more extended account of his life on which this notice is largely based, see *Comptes Rendus Acad. Sci., Paris*, Vol. 173, pp. 485-488. Sept. 19, 1921.

1921, from the effect of an accident in which he had been injured a few days before. He was the son of Samuel and Jerusha Baker (Erskine) Woodward and was born in Damariscotta, Maine, Jan. 2, 1853. He was a Mayflower descendant and also a descendant of Nathaniel Woodward who settled at Boston in 1633. His education was received at the Lincoln Academy at New Castle, Me., and at the Chelsea High School. At the age of 18 he entered the service of the Magee Furnace Company, became a member of the firm in 1887, and in 1905 organized the firm of Frank E. Woodward & Co., heating and ventilating engineers. Mr. Woodward took an active part in the work of patriotic and historic societies, serving as a trustee of the Malden Public Library 1903-1910, vice president and president of the Society of Mayflower Descendants, member of the Council of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society and president of the Massachusetts Society of the Sons of the Revolution. He wrote many magazine articles on genealogical and historical subjects besides publishing genealogies of the Woodward and Erskine families.—T. S. P.

COL. BASIL HICKS DUTCHER, U. S. A., an Associate of the Union from 1886 to 1910, died at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, D. C., Jan. 16, 1922. He was the son of William and Catharine Price Dutcher and was born at Bergen Point, N. J., Dec. 3, 1871. He graduated from the Columbia School of Mines in 1892 and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1895. At an early age he became interested in natural history and accompanied his father on many collecting trips to Long Island and other points in the vicinity of New York. At the age of 19 he was appointed a field assistant in the Division of Ornithology of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture and took part in the biological reconnaissance of Idaho under the direction of Dr. C. Hart Merriam in 1890. In the following summer he became a member of the Death Valley Expedition and for three months was in charge of a meteorological Station in Big Cottonwood Meadows near Mt. Whitney, Calif., at an altitude of about 10,000 feet. Shortly after receiving his medical degree he secured an appointment in the army as an assistant surgeon with the rank of 1st Lieutenant and during his 25 years of service was stationed at several posts in the Southwest, in the Philippines, Porto Rico, and Panama, and during the World War he was in charge of a hospital at Brest, France. Upon his retirement from active service early in 1920 he took up his residence at Chevy Chase, Maryland, where he lived until his death. Among his natural history publications his paper on 'Bird Notes from Little Gulf Island, N. Y.,' in 'The Auk' for 1889, pp. 124-131, and his account of the 'Mammals of Mt. Katahdin, Maine,' in the Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington for 1903, pp. 63-71, contain a number of notes of permanent value.—T. S. P.

FOLLOWING the appointment of Dr. Wilfred H. Osgood as Curator of the Department of Zoology in the Field Museum of Natural History, there has been a reorganization of the Department and a considerable increase in personnel. In the division of birds, the staff will be as follows: Dr. C. E. Hellmayr, Associate Curator; Mr. John T. Zimmer, Assistant Curator; Mr. Colin C. Sanborn, Assistant; and Mr. Ashley Hine, Taxidermist. Mr. Boardman Conover, whose private collection of game birds is deposited in the Museum, is a volunteer associate. Other additions to the Department include Mr. Edmund Heller as Assistant Curator of Mammals and Mr. Karl P. Schmidt as Assistant Curator of Reptiles and Batrachians.

Dr. Hellmayr, who is an Honorary Fellow of the A. O. U., and one of the most distinguished of European ornithologists, is now at the Museum of the University of Munich, Germany. He expects to arrive in America early in September and on reaching the Field Museum will devote himself largely to work connected with the completion of the series of volumes on the 'Birds of the Americas' begun by the late Charles B. Cory. His extensive knowledge of Neotropical birds especially qualifies him for this task and for other work relating to the exploration of South America which the Field Museum is now undertaking. Needless to say, all American ornithologists will welcome his accession to their ranks.

Mr. Zimmer, formerly of the University of Nebraska and more recently engaged in zoological work in the Philippines and New Guinea, joined the Museum's staff in January and left in March for extensive field work in Peru and Brazil accompanied by Mr. Heller who will collect mammals. Mr. Conover and Mr. Hine were engaged in field work during May in the vicinity of Edmonton, Alberta.

ON MARCH 14th a number of ornithologists of Washington met at the residence of Mr. B. H. Swales and organized the Baird Club. Dr. A. K. Fisher was elected president, Ned Hollister vice president, and B. H. Swales secretary. The club, named in honor of Spencer Fullerton Baird, nestor of Washington ornithologists, is an informal organization intended to promote social intercourse among its members and to discuss questions on local and general interest in ornithology.

THE 75th BIRTHDAY of Mr. John H. Sage, ex-president of the Union, on April 20, was celebrated by the Baird Club on an outing at the Washington Biologist's Field Club on Plummer Island on the Potomac at which the guests of honor were Mr. Sage, Mr. J. H. Fleming of Toronto and Dr. Casey A. Wood who had just returned from British Guiana. Two days later Dr. Wood gave an informal dinner at the Cosmos Club in honor of Mr. Sage which was attended by 15 local ornithologists and several guests.

AN UNUSUAL number of members of the Union are abroad this summer. Dr. Jonathan Dwight and Dr. Casey A. Wood are spending the summer in England, Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson sailed early in May for a brief trip to France, Holland and England, Mrs. V. M. Reichenberger is doing some special work in Munich, Dr. F. M. Chapman left for South America to June to resume field work in Ecuador, and Mr. Rollo H. Beck is still collecting in the South Pacific for the American Museum of Natural History, and Dr. Leonhard Stejneger expects to revisit the Commander Islands, Siberia, in connection with a trip to Alaska. Mr. Henry W. Fowler will leave shortly for a year's stay in Honolulu and vicinity and Dr. Wm. E. Hughes is on his way to the Feejee Islands.

THE annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union for 1922, being the fortieth stated meeting, will be held in Chicago, Illinois, the week beginning October 23. The public sessions will be held October 24, 25, and 26 in the magnificent new building of the Field Museum of Natural History situated in Grant Park on the shore of Lake Michigan within sight and walking distance of the business district and many of the best hotels.

Since this will be the first stated meeting of the Union to be held in the Mississippi Valley, it is hoped that it may be widely representative of the whole country with a good attendance from both east and west. The usual participants at eastern meetings, including the well known ornithologists of New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Washington, will be well represented and it will be a particularly happy occasion if a good delegation is present from the numerous active ornithologists of the Pacific Coast. From Chicago itself and from the states of the Middle West and South a large attendance is confidently expected.

Chicago is a favorite convention city and will provide ample entertainments and social features. Plans will include an excursion to the interesting sand dune region of Indiana some forty miles southeast of Chicago and shorter excursions will be optional. It is proposed also to hold an exhibition of bird painting following the example so successfully set at the Washington meeting in 1918. This feature will be especially developed and doubtless will be greatly appreciated by those who have not previously had opportunity to see a large and varied collection of original paintings of birds. Besides pictures to be exhibited by the artists themselves, it is hoped that pictures owned by various members of the Union will be loaned for the occasion under terms which will entail no expense or risk to the owners. Correspondence in regard to this is invited by the Chairman of the local committee.

The committee of arrangements consists of Wilfred H. Osgood (chairman), Percival B. Coffin, Ruthven Deane, O. N. Schantz, and R. M. Strong, together with the President and Secretary of the A. O. U., ex-officio.